

Saguache County Board of Commissioners met in regular session Tuesday, May 17, 2011 with the following present:

Sam Pace, Chairman
Mike Spearman, Co-Vice Chair
Linda Joseph, Co-Vice Chair
Wendi Maez, Co-Administrator
Lyn Lambert, Co-Administrator
Ben Gibbons, County Attorney
Melinda Myers, Clerk and Secretary to the Board

Meeting called to order by Chair Pace at 9:03 A.M.

Additions or Deletions to the Agenda.

1. Add HCP and Food Bank to Public Health report.
2. Remove Sheriff's report.

Joseph moved to approve the agenda as amended. Spearman seconded the motion. The vote was three Ayes.

Reading and approval of minutes of May 3, 2011.

Pace moved to approve the minutes of May 3, 2011. Joseph seconded motion. The vote was three Ayes.

Review of Mail and other correspondence:

1. **Solar Reserve** sent a letter in regards to the proposed letter from Saguache County to the FAA regarding Solar Reserve's Saguache Solar Energy Project. (5/5/11)
2. **Malina Feder** sent a thank you letter for the services Daniel Johnson Fire Mitigation has provided. (5/10/11)
3. **Colorado Conservator** sent the Vol. 27 No.2 Spring 2011 Newsletter. (5/10/11)
4. **Rio Grande Water Conservation District** sent the May 2011 Ground Water Table Measurements. (5/11/11)
5. **State of Colorado Dept. of Public Health** sent a Notice of Meeting and Agenda on Air Quality Control Commission on May 19, 2011 at 9:30 a.m. in Denver, Co. (5/11/11)
6. **Kim Smoyer, ScSeed** sent an email on news for the SDRP on Phase III explaining that the Town of Saguache has been granted DOLA funds to complete the Downtown Revitalization Project. (5/11/11)
7. **JLM, Inc** sent a letter about being in Contact with Road & Bridge at the Saguache County Landfill with an estimate to remove waste tires and taking them to the Colorado Energy Recyclers. (5/11/11)
8. **Daniel Johnson** delivered the April 2011 report for the Saguache County Fire Mitigation Program. (5/13/11)
9. **Upper Gunnison River Water Conservancy District** sent the Agenda for the Board of Directors regular meeting on Monday, May 23, 2011 at 6:30p.m. (5/16/11)

10. **State of Colorado Public Health** sent the Colorado Board of Health Agenda, to be held May 18, 2011 at 10:00a.m. in Denver. (5/16/11)
11. **U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service** sent the April 2011 Environmental Assessment of Proposed Oil & Gas Exploration, Baca National Wildlife Refuge, Saguache County, Colorado. (5/16/11)

Introduction of Guests: Akia Tanara – Town of Crestone; Sandra Hammond; and Kim Smoyer – ScSEED/SBDC.

Commissioners Reports:

Sam Pace reported:

- Received a call from Scott McCurdy about tax assessment issues with the Assessor.
- Received a note from Assessor Stephen about the issue Mr. McCurdy is concerned about.
- Received an email about oil and gas regulations.

Pace moved to add the Commissioner's signatures to a letter of support for Mountain Valley Lumber. Spearman seconded the motion. The vote was three Ayes.

Linda Joseph reported:

- May 6 - Attended the Governor's Bottom Up regional economic development meeting in Center. The resulting summary for the SLV sent out for final comments, before it is released for public comment, today.
- May 10 - Received a call from Mary Hoffman of Adams State College Community Partnerships, regarding the Southern Colorado film Commission's application to be certified Nationally Certified as a Film Commission. All 5 other SLV Counties have signed the endorsement form of their application. Attended the Sales Tax Grant work session.
- May 12 - Attended a meeting held at SLV Development Resource Group to address issues threatening one of Saguache County's largest businesses - Mountain Valley Lumber. Letters of support were requested, for a remedy.

Mike Spearman reported:

- May 6 – Attended the State Water Regulation meeting.
- May 10 – Attended the Sales Tax Grant work session.
- May 12 – Attended Mountain Valley Lumber meeting to discuss ways to help them stay in business.
- May 13 – Attended State Engineers Advisory Committee meeting for SLV.
- Was contacted by a citizen in regards to County Road D being closed.

Wendi Maez & Lyn Zimmer – Co-administrator report:

- Veteran's report was signed.

Joseph moved to approve the resolution to transfer \$560.12 from General Funds to the Library Fund. Spearman seconded the motion. The vote was three Ayes.

- Resolution for the old Library Fund to close out 2010 in the amount of \$560.12

Pace moved to acknowledge receipt of the Crestone Fire Protection District Plan and set the Public Hearing for July 12, 2011. Spearman seconded the motion. The vote was three Ayes.

- Crestone Fire Protection District Plan was presented by Akia Tanara, Crestone Town Manager. The Public Hearing will be on July 12, 2011. The process is for the Board to review Service Plans and hold a public hearing.

Break

Wendi Maez - Land Use report:

- Solar Reserve has sent a letter asking for feedback concerning the visual simulations they have proposed. The letter was forwarded to the Board last Monday for their review. The Board felt the simulations they plan to present are acceptable.
- Discussion on the process of vacating a County Road that has been platted but never constructed. Attorney Gibbons will research the process and report back.
- Joy Hill has resigned from the Crestone/Baca Planning Commission. The BGPOA has recommended that Bill Folk be put on the PC as Joy's replacement. The alternate position was created for Joy Hill to transition onto the Commission, so there is no position to fill.

Pace moved to approve the resolution granting a Defacto Subdivision Exemption for /LD Corporation. Joseph seconded the motion. The vote was three Ayes.

- Discussion on the minutes from the Planning Commission and Gibbons will send the PC a letter to remind them of the limits of their duties.

Ben Gibbons - County Attorney Report:

- Michael Boone has been served an Emergency Injunction to prohibit him from inhabiting his property and dumping any waste on his or his neighbors' property. Gibbons is working
- Presented a claim of a truck hitting a horse on Highway 17, mile post 107 that noticed the County, CDOT and the Town of Moffat.
- May 31, 2011 at 1:30 will be the hearing on the Secretary of State ballot issue.
- Depositions were taken on May 5&6 for the Marks case. The hearing has been tentatively set for June 15, 2011 at 10 am. unless there is a delay due to Marks wanting to depose ES&S.

Adjourned for Lunch at 12:00 P. M.

Resumed meeting at 1:02 P. M.

Randy Arredondo –

- Will be putting oil on roads. Almost done crack sealing county roads and will be doing some in the Town of Center.

- Has decided that the asphalt shredder Baxter wants to sell will not be efficient for tires. It would require additional attachments for extra cost of \$15,000. It could be used to grind and recycle asphalt to be put back on the roads, which would save money in the long run. Arredondo will research new shredders to see price and performance. Commissioner Spearman will follow-up on this with Arredondo.
- Parts of County Road 10XX has been closed due to BLM doing some construction work. Residents can get to their property through the Gold Basin Subdivision side.
- Architect wants to change the entrance on the current building to the east
- Hauled some blow sand to Maez and Tom Smith to get rid of it. Pace suggested Arredondo publicize that the County has materials to dispose of and residents can contact Road and Bridge if interested.
- Spearman was approached by a citizen as to why County Road D is closed. Arredondo explained it was done at the request of Ron Garcia to keep folks out of the Baca Wildlife Refuge, but it is still accessible to property owner since it will not be locked.
- Veterans Cemetery in Monte Vista paving project will be done by Rio Grande County and all counties will help with the costs.
- Gibbons gave him a copy of the damage claim from Southern Food Group on the truck vs. horse incident.

Della Vieira – Saguache Public Health Director:

- Met with Rio Grande PH Director to discuss providing HCP, (Health Care Program for Children with Special Needs), coverage. They agreed on two options:
 1. Combined contract for services for both Saguache and Rio Grande Counties.
 2. Regional office in Alamosa will cover both counties.
 Pace suggested Public Health submit a sales Tax Grant to bridge the gap.
- Food Bank network of the San Luis Valley has authorized Nancy Jo Armenta to operate the Saguache Emergency Food Bank and she would like to continue doing it. She would like to meet with the Board, Director Vieira and Social Services Director Norris.

Melinda Myers – County Clerk

- Liquor License for Saw Tooth Mountain Lodge; Scott Hitchson's new liquor permit Saw Tooth Mountain Lodge Bed & Breakfast. More steps need to be fulfilled before a license can be issued.

Kim Smoyer - ScSeed Economic Development Update

- Report to the Board on what County funding has supported since January 2008. This will give a better idea about what kind of return has been generated for the investment in ScSEED's work. Beginning in 2008, the County has contributed directly to ScSEED a total of \$20,000 in general operating support. Additional support has also been awarded directly to ScSEED for various economic development projects as outlined below:

Ranching Way of Life DVD	\$3000
Saguache Chamber	\$4000
Artist Coop	\$8000
Biomass Innovation	\$6,000
SAGE	\$6,500
Local Currency	\$3730
SLV Theatre Company	\$10,500

Walking Tour	\$1900	(\$500 from County Tourism Council)
ED Coordination	\$4000	
SDRP	<u>\$17,800</u>	
SUB-TOTAL PROJECTS	\$65,430	
SUB-TOTAL OPERATING	<u>\$20,000</u>	
TOTAL	\$85,430	(Four years, since January 2008)

The projects listed above have yielded matching and other support funding that has come from outside of the County and includes support from state government, private foundations (mostly from the Front Range) and regional organizations. Without the BOCC support, as outlined above, the following additional funding would not have come to support ScSEED projects. The total support for these projects from outside the County is outlined below:

Anschutz Family Foundation	\$12,500
El Pomar Foundation	\$5000
El Pomar Regional Council	\$7500
El Pomar Regional Council	\$12,500
SLV DRG	\$7500
Governor's Energy Office (GEO)	\$4500
Odell's Brewing Company	\$1329
Xcel Energy Foundation	<u>\$5000</u>
TOTAL	\$55,829

The investment of \$85,430 by the BOCC to ScSEED enabled ScSEED to leverage an additional \$55,829 to support economic development projects in the County.

Additionally, ScSEED wrote grants for other governmental entities, municipalities and non-profits that support these and other ED projects as outlined below:

Saguache County Credit Union (Local Currency)	\$2000	Sales Tax Grant
Town of Saguache (SDRP)	<u>\$20,000</u>	Sales Tax Grant Matching
SUB-TOTAL BOCC SUPPORT	\$22,000	

Town of Saguache (SDRP)	\$10,000	El Pomar Regional Council
Town of Saguache (SDRP)	\$5000	El Pomar Regional Council
Town of Saguache (SDRP)	\$17,000	DOLA Planning Grant
Town of Saguache (SDRP)	<u>\$500,000</u>	DOLA CDBG Grant
SUB-TOTAL PROJECT (ScSEED provide TA)	\$532,000	

ScSEED successfully leveraged a total of **\$587,829** from the BOCC's investment of **\$85,430** for a total return on investment of 15% since January 2008.

The projects outlined above are all economic development projects, which resulted in the following job creation and increased economy vitality:

Ranching Way of Life DVD – Employed three (3) county residents part-time; continues to provide educational opportunities to youth throughout the SLV; provides a vital tourism tool for attracting agro-tourism; leveraged outside dollars totaling \$7500 from El Pomar to support this project; supports Southern Colorado Film Commission's ability to attract the film industry to the Valley; paid county newspapers to run advertisements; and continues to bring minimal income to ScSEED through the sales of the DVD.

Saguache Chamber – Employed two (2) county residents part-time; enable the reformation of a business resource; developed a Town of Saguache logo and website through a competition which paid two local artists for their work; created self-sustaining organizational structure which is now functioning independently from ScSEED.

Saguache Artist Coop – Employed two (2) county residents part-time; enabled formation of a business resource that supports local artists; paid county newspapers to run advertisements; conducted two (2) exhibits; developed a website for showcasing members' work; supported the Saguache Art Walk (summer 2010) which drew over 200 visitors to Saguache.

Biomass Innovation Competition – Employed two (2) part-time county residents; leveraged \$7500 from SLV DRG to support the effort through the Colorado Enterprise Zone Marketing Fund; provided two businesses with a total of \$5000 in financial support (2010) and one business (to be announced June 1, 2011) with \$5000 in financial support (2011); paid county newspapers to run advertisements; and provided tuition for four county business representatives to attend the SLV Small Business Development Center's Leading Edge (NxLevel) training in Moffat in the fall of 2010.

Saguache Alliance For Green Energy (SAGE) – Employed one (1) county resident part-time and hired one full-time AmeriCorps VISTA volunteer (from outside the county); paid county newspapers to run advertisements; developed a working relationship with Colorado Harvesting Energy Network (CHEN) who assisted with the development of the Saguache Energy Action Plan (SEAP) that outlines energy efficiency and renewable energy measures for the Town of Saguache (adopted by the Town); hosted two energy workshops (January 2010 and 2011) providing county residents with information about energy savings and resources; leveraged a total of \$5829 from GEO and Odell's to support the work; purchased and distributed over 200 CFL bulbs to residents of Saguache; and currently working with the Town of Saguache to develop a Solar Garden project for the residents of Saguache.

Local Currency – Hired one (1) county resident part time; paid one local artist for their currency design; paid local printing press (Crescent) for printing the currency; distributed currency throughout community as a means to keep dollars local; developed a "Buy Local First" marketing campaign; and paid County newspapers to run advertisements.

SLV Theatre Company – Hired two (2) county residents part time; hired local professionals to support project (vocal coach, piano tuner, etc.); paid county newspapers to run advertisements; signed lease agreement with local Ute Theatre to provide monthly income; provide local residents with opportunities for entertainment and enrichment; purchased lighting equipment and installation from local electrical contractor; and wrote outstanding grant applications that if funded will leverage an additional \$11,500 (CCI & Laura Jane Musser Fund) from outside the community;

Walking Tour – Hired two (2) county residents part time; applied and awarded designation of Four Corners Tourism site; paid local residents (Chaffee Printing) to print the booklet; developed professional-quality marketing piece for publication and distribution to attract tourism; and leveraged additional support from the Saguache County Tourism Council (\$500).

ED Coordination – Hired one (1) county resident part-time; developed County economic development plan (as per the Governor's Bottom Up Planning requirements); coordination with Chamber, Artist Coop, SDBC, SCBA, and other local and regional business support entities; direct reporting on progress and relationship building with the BOCC; support part-time employee to become a certified economic developer; made a pitch and was awarded the host site for the SLV Rural Philanthropy Days which will bring in over 200 visitors to the County in Sept. 2011 and support approximately fifteen (15) local businesses; and provide a free social media workshop to county residents for direct business support (5/17).

Saguache Downtown Revitalization Project (SDRP) – Hired two (2) county residents part-time; leveraged \$532,000 for the Town in outside funding and \$17,500 for ScSEED coordination from outside sources; facilitated 4th Street being designated to CPI Most Endangered Places list in 2009; established vital partnerships and support for the project; provided support that enabled

three (3) new businesses to open on 4th Street in 2010 (during a national economy recession) and those business in-turn have hired over four (4) full-time staff and five (5) part-time staff; development of a Historic Preservation Commission and Ordinance for Saguache and obtained Certified Local Government (CLG) status which will bring in additional outside funding to support HP efforts including façade restoration and designation projects; and provided community development and planning services resulting in community support and state and federal funding for the renovations on 4th Street.

All of these projects, and in particular the SDRP, have and will, continue to attract business to our community. When individuals obtain the support they need, whether that is one-on-one business counseling or a beautiful, lively downtown business district, they are more likely and able to bring new initiatives and business to the county. ScSEED has been a capacity building organization in this effort. ScSEED is a non-profit organization that is dependent on funding through various sources to be able to bring these services and support to the region.

- **Rural Philanthropy Days (RPD)** – The event will be held September 14 – 16th. For details visit www.slvrrpd.org. The Steering Committee will be meeting in Saguache on May 12th for a tour of the venues and more organizational planning. Someone from the Program Committee will be in touch with the BOCC to discuss participation in the government session.
- **Saguache Chamber** – The Chamber is moving ahead with plans to marketing Saguache in tourist publications throughout the Valley. The board is meeting regularly. Various initiatives are being coordinated by several board members and committee chairs.
- **Saguache Artist Coop** – A sampling of this local talent will be on display at the Smith Market Gallery at 301 5th Street. The owner, Byron Williams, has generously opened his space up to the *Saguache Artists*. The exhibition will open on Saturday, May 21st from 10AM-6PM and will run throughout the Memorial Day weekend and into June. Please visit the new *Saguache Artists* webpage on the Saguache Chamber of Commerce website at <http://www.townofsaguache.org/saguache-artists.htm> for more information and to learn more about the participating artists. Featured artists will include: baskets and gourds by Byron Williams, fantasy illustrations and collages by Judith Page, fine woodworking, hats and bags made by Slim Wolfe of “Mad Hatter Woodworks”, functional table and kitchenware by Riff and Marilyn of Fenton Studio Pottery, sacred drawings and botanical images on handmade paper by Lynn Amlie of SunMoon Creations and impressionistic landscapes by Christa Gulaian.
- **Saguache Downtown Revitalization Project (SDRP)** – ScSEED recently received notice that the Saguache Downtown Revitalization Project (Phase III – Implementation) will be funded \$500,000 through the Department of Local Affairs, CDBG funding. This is very exciting news for the Town and County of Saguache. We will reconvene the Visioning Committee to work with the Engineering to pick elements for the project (i.e. benches, planters, lighting, etc.).
- **Economic Developer Training** – Smoyer received a scholarship of \$550 to attend a week long Economic Developer Training in Denver during the first week of June. We also again became members of the Economic Development Council or Colorado (EDCC). EDCC was the organization that will provide this \$550 scholarship to attend the training. Also recently completed the registration process and will be attending the training from June 6 – 10th in Denver.

- **Saguache Historic Walking Tour** – The final printed booklet is now available for distribution. Carla Quintana volunteered to distribute them around Saguache. They are available at the library and throughout businesses in Saguache. Several were sent to the Welcome Center in Alamosa. The museum will get a box to distribute as they see fit. Two hundred copies will be held back for RPD participants. Copies for the Courthouse and the Board were provided.
- **Saguache Clean-Up Day** – We are very excited about a new opportunity to partner with the Forest Service (and its AmeriCorps volunteers) to accomplish our goals. Penny, Lindy and Marge met yesterday with Steve Sanchez and agreed to postpone our big town cleanup day to July 17--with a party/barbecue in the park. (Organizing a community event is part of the groups' volunteer assignment.) In the few days preceding that event, our young volunteers (with local volunteers) will finish painting the library and the community building. Meanwhile, a different group of volunteers will be here in early June and will help us with a couple of 4th Street properties. We are currently committed to painting/fixing up Mike Cassidy's building and the "false front" next door, and are waiting for final word on the medical building. (Dr. Arnett has applied for a grant to replace the windows, etc, and has asked us to wait...)
- **Historic Preservation Commission** - The HPC will provide walking-tour guides for the SLV RPD event in September. They are also in the process of completing a State Historical Fund grant application to have a Historical Structure Assessment (HSA) completed on the Town Hall.
- **Small Business Development Center (SBDC)** – There are several business clients in Saguache that Smoyer is currently working with – providing business counseling. Also in the process of developing a Social Media and Marketing workshop, which will take place from 4-6 PM in Saguache on Tuesday, May 17, 2011. This workshop will be open to the public and no charge to participants.
- **SLV Energy Steering Committee** – According to Jeanna Paluzzi, the SLV Energy Plan is currently at the state level and she is waiting for review comments from them. She will put the final approved plan up on the website.
- **Saguache Economic Development Plan** – We attended another round of the Bottom Up ED planning meeting in Center on May 6th. Commissioner Joseph and Spearman, as well as Maez and Lambert were in attendance, which gave us another opportunity to discuss Saguache County's initiatives as a model for other communities; and assist the state with their need to consolidate the county plans into a regional plan with our consensus.
- **Building A Better Colorado Through Civic Engagement** - A Summary of Colorado's Future Civic Engagement meeting in Alamosa on March 31, 2011 was made available. Feel free to visit www.coloradosfuture.org for an update on civic engagement processes.

Break

<p>Joseph moved to convene as the Housing Board at 3:12 P.M. Spearman seconded. The vote was three Ayes.</p>

Evan Samora - Saguache County Housing

<p>Joseph moved to adjourn the Housing Board and return to regular meeting at 3:27 P.M. Spearman seconded. The vote was three Ayes.</p>
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Pace moved to approve IGA with the Saguache County Library District with amendments as needed for adding the County Treasurer instead of the CFO, and that there will be three equal payments starting August 1st, 2011. Joseph seconded the motion. The vote was three Ayes.

- IGA with the Saguache County Library District

Sales Tax Grant - Awards:

Spearman moved to approve the following Emergency/Health & Safety Sales Tax Grants: Ancient Arts Midwifery - \$2950; Center Fire Protection District - \$3825; Office of Emergency Management - \$8020; Saguache County Sheriff's office - \$9000; Kids Connect - \$1220; Kit Carson Rod & Gun Club - \$2000 and Saguache County Public Health - \$1235 Total Approved for Emergency/Health & Safety - \$28,250. Joseph seconded the motion. The vote was three Ayes.

Spearman moved to approve the following Youth and Seniors Sales Tax Grants: Mountain Valley School Wrestling - \$2650; Center School District – STARS - \$5000; Crestone Children's Coop Playschool - \$2100; Crestone Performances - \$4000; Crestone Youth Plaza - \$5000; South Central Colorado Seniors - \$4178 and Town of Saguache - \$2200. Total Approved for Youth and Seniors - \$26,328 Pace seconded the motion. The vote was three Ayes.

Pace moved to approve the following Youth and Seniors Sales Tax Grant: ScSeed - \$1200. Spearman seconded the motion. The vote was two Ayes and one abstain.

Pace moved to approve the following Renewable Energy / Job Creation Sales Tax Grants: Crestone Energy Fair - \$3000; Living Arts Institute - \$3300; Saguache Chamber of Commerce - \$2000; Saguache Community Gardens - \$2800; Saguache Tourism Council - \$3400; SLV Rural Philanthropy Days - \$6000 and Town of Crestone - \$3500 Total Approved for Renewable Energy / Job Creation - \$26,500 Spearman seconded the motion. The vote was three Ayes.

Pace moved to approve the following Renewable Energy / Job Creation Sales Tax Grant: ScSeed - \$2500. Spearman seconded the motion. The vote was two Ayes and one abstain.

Bill Paying

Joseph moved to adjourn at 4:25 P.M. Spearman seconded the motion. The vote was three Ayes.

Respectfully Submitted,

Melinda Myers Secretary to the Board of County Commissioners

Minutes Approved June 14, 2011

Chairman of the Board

Attest

Commissioner

Commissioner